

Amendments to the Claims:

1. **(currently amended)** A method for delivering health care through a **portable** health assistant, **said method** comprising:
- providing a patient with the **portable** health assistant;
  - configuring the **portable** health assistant with a protocol comprising multimedia software content for treating a disease of the patient through the **portable** health assistant;
  - at a computer remote from the **portable** health assistant, receiving patient data collected by the **portable** health assistant in accordance with the protocol; **and**
  - from the remote computer, sending to the **portable** health assistant an order[[,]] modifying how the protocol treats the disease. ~~that comprises a task that the [portable] health assistant reminds the patient to perform at a predetermined time.~~
2. **(currently amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein the remote computer is a server that the **portable** health assistant periodically accesses.
3. **(canceled)**
4. **(canceled)**
5. **(currently amended)** The method of claim 1, wherein sending [[to]] the **portable** health assistant the order comprises:
- sending the order from the remote computer ~~over a computer network~~ to a server that is remotely accessible by the **portable** health assistant; and
  - sending the order from the server to the **portable** health assistant.
6. **(canceled)**
7. **(original)** The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving an alert at the remote computer that the patient data merits review by a clinician.

8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the patient data collected by the **portable** health assistant comprises an indicator of compliance by the patient with a treatment regimen associated with the protocol.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the patient data collected by the **portable** health assistant comprises a symptom reported by the patient to the **portable** health assistant.

11. (currently amended) A computer-implementable method for providing health care under the supervision of a remote clinician, said method comprising:

providing to a patient computer, via a connection with a remote server, an order that is received from a clinician;

~~reminding a patient when to perform a task included in an order for treating the patient received from the clinician during a first periodic connection with a remote server;~~

receiving from the patient after the step of providing the order to the patient computer, transmitting, from the patient computer to the remote server, an indication of a symptom experienced by the patient; and

after the step of transmitting the indication of a symptom experienced by the patient, sending, from the remote server to a clinician computer, notification of the symptom ~~to the remote server during a second periodic connection with the remote server~~ so that ~~[[the]]~~ a clinician can evaluate a need for a new order.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising the steps of:  
**wherein**

~~receiving from the patient the indication of the symptom experienced by the patient~~  
**comprises:**

querying the patient to report the symptom; and

as a result of said step of querying the patient to report the symptom, receiving the  
indication of the symptom from the patient.

14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~[[14]]~~ 13, wherein the step of  
querying the patient to report the system comprises presenting multimedia information to  
said patient. instructions for performing the task comprise multimedia information.

16. (currently amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising querying the  
patient to determine whether the patient has completed a task associated with the order. if  
~~the patient has completed the task.~~

17. (original) The method of claim 16, further comprising notifying the remote server  
whether the patient has completed the task.

18. (original) The method of claim 11, further comprising providing the patient with  
educational material about a disease of the patient.

19. (canceled)

20. **(currently amended)** The method of claim ~~[[19]]~~ 13, ~~wherein receiving the physiological measurement of the patient determined by the health monitoring device comprises receiving the physiological measurement by entry of the physiological measurement through~~ further comprising the step of allowing a user to input the indication of a symptom experienced by the patient via a touch screen interface.

21. **(canceled)**

22. **(canceled)**

23. **(currently amended)** A computer-readable medium storing computer-executable instructions for performing the steps of:

reminding a patient ~~when~~ to perform a task included in an order for treating the patient received from the clinician during a first **periodic** connection with a remote server;  
receiving from the patient an indication of a symptom experienced by the patient; and  
sending notification of the symptom to the remote server during a second **periodic** connection with the remote server so that the clinician can evaluate a need for a new order.

24. **(currently amended)** A ~~portable health assistant that is~~ computer system adapted to perform the steps of:

reminding a patient ~~when~~ to perform a task included in an order for treating the patient received from the clinician during a first **periodic** connection with a remote server;  
receiving from the patient an indication of a symptom experienced by the patient; and  
sending notification of the symptom to the remote server during a second **periodic** connection with the remote server so that the clinician can evaluate a need for a new order.

25. (currently amended) A **portable** health assistant system, comprising:  
a **portable** health assistant that is functional for performing the following functions  
configured for:

- periodically forming a communication connection with a remote computer server;
- over the communication connection, receiving orders from a clinician for treating a patient;
- ~~reminding the patient~~ instructing the patient [[when]] to perform tasks included in the orders;
- collecting information from the patient about symptoms experienced by the patient **and**  
~~compliance by the patient with a prescribed treatment regimen;~~ and
- sending the information to the computer server over the communication connection[[;]].

~~the computer server functional for performing the following functions:~~

- ~~sending the information over an Internet to a clinician at a remote Web browser;~~
- ~~determining if the information meets predetermined criteria indicating that the clinician should be specially notified of the information;~~
- ~~sending an alert to the clinician if the information meets the predetermined criteria indicating that the clinician should be specially notified of the information;~~
- ~~receiving the orders from the clinician; and~~
- ~~sending the orders over the communication connection to the portable health assistant; and~~

~~the Web browser functional for performing the following functions:~~

- ~~displaying the alert to the clinician;~~
- ~~displaying the information to the clinician; and~~
- ~~transmitting the orders from the clinician over the Internet to the computer server.~~

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26. (new) The health assistant system of Claim 25, further comprising a clinician computer that is configured for:

receiving the orders from the clinician; and  
sending the orders to a health assistant via the server.

27. (new) The health assistant system of Claim 25, further comprising a clinician computer that is configured for sending an alert to the clinician if the information meets predetermined criteria indicating that the clinician should be specially notified of the information.

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